

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Alleged Mutiny of Soviet Officers Stationed in Neustrelitz	DATE DISTR.	21 October 1955
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. In early May 1955, certain elements of the German population of Neustrelitz, Mecklenburg, who have dealings with Soviet troops became increasingly aware of a state of unrest prevailing among the large garrison of some 60,000 troops stationed in the various military installations there. Various officers openly voiced their dissatisfaction with existing conditions to their German acquaintances. Many of the latter were rather surprised at these outbursts.
2. Between about 8 and 15 May, pass restrictions and additional guard duties were suddenly imposed, and Soviet troops, including most officers, were restricted to their quarters. Other Soviet units apparently were unexpectedly ordered out of their barracks and sent on field maneuvers. Those few officers, all unidentified, who were still able to go about Neustrelitz and to mix with Germans became markedly reserved and circumspect in their dealings with them. A few days later, in the evening, shots were heard in some of the barracks.
3. After a few weeks, Soviet garrison life in Neustrelitz seemed to return to normal and officers again resumed their more carefree attitude. One of the Soviet officers, an unidentified Lieutenant Colonel, believed to be in the armored force, who speaks fairly fluent German, told a German acquaintance of his that at the time of the sudden imposition of restrictions an investigation had been conducted concerning a mutiny which had apparently occurred in one of the other units.
4. This Lieutenant Colonel stated that some Soviet troops were executed following a summary court martial on the night that the shots were heard in the barracks. He did not specifically state, nor was he asked, whether the persons executed were officers or enlisted men, but he stated that a total of 39 officers were arrested and that none of them remained in Neustrelitz.

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5. At a later conversation in early July with the same acquaintance, this Lieutenant Colonel questioned the acquaintance about his knowledge of West Berlin but tried to make the conversation seem rather casual. He inquired about conditions, and how people could travel there.
6. In one of the conversations, the Lieutenant Colonel mentioned that only 30% of the Soviet officers of the units stationed in Neustrelitz were members of the Communist Party.

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